

the President. I believe this comports with the Supreme Court rulings on this issue and cures any constitutional infirmity with the original language.

In addition, the original bill would have deemed any delay in bringing a person before a magistrate due to transporting the person back to the U.S. from overseas as "justifiable." I was concerned that this provision could end up excusing lengthy and unreasonable delays in getting a civilian, who was arrested overseas, before a U.S. Magistrate, and thereby raise yet other constitutional concerns.

The Sessions-Leahy-DeWine substitute cures that potential problem by removing the problematic provision and relying instead on Rule 5 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. This rule requires that an arrested person be brought before a magistrate to answer charges without unnecessary delays, and will apply to the removal of a civilian from overseas to answer charges in the United States.

Finally, S. 768 as introduced authorized the Department of Defense to determine which foreign officials constitute the appropriate authorities to whom an arrested civilian should be delivered. In my proposal for this legislation I required that DOD make this determination in consultation with the Department of State. I felt this would help avoid international faux pax. I am pleased that the Sessions-Leahy substitute adopted my approach to this issue and requires consultation with the Department of State.

I am glad the legislation which I and other Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee originally introduced both last year and again on January 19 of this year, is finally being considered, and I urge its prompt passage.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, June 29, 1999, the federal debt stood at \$5,602,716,451,360.35 (Five trillion, six hundred two billion, seven hundred sixteen million, four hundred fifty-one thousand, three hundred sixty dollars and thirty-five cents).

One year ago, June 29, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,502,438,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred two billion, four hundred thirty-eight million).

Five years ago, June 29, 1994, the federal debt stood at \$4,604,970,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred four billion, nine hundred seventy million) which reflects a debt increase of almost \$1 trillion—\$997,746,451,360.35 (Nine hundred ninety-seven billion, seven hundred forty-six million, four hundred fifty-one thousand, three hundred sixty dollars and thirty-five cents) during the past 5 years.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PROCLAMATION TO MODIFY DUTY-FREE TREATMENT UNDER THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES RELATIVE TO GABON, MONGOLIA, AND MAURITANIA; TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 45

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) offers duty-free treatment to specified products that are imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. The GSP is authorized by title V of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.

I have determined, based on a consideration of the eligibility criteria in title V, that Gabon and Mongolia should be added to the list of beneficiary developing countries under the GSP.

I have also determined that the suspension of preferential treatment for Mauritania as a beneficiary developing country under the GSP, as reported in my letters to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate of June 25, 1993, should be ended. I had determined to suspend Mauritania from the GSP because Mauritania had not taken or was not taking steps to afford internationally recognized worker rights. I have determined that circumstances in Mauritania have changed and that, based on a consideration of the eligibility criteria in title V, preferential treatment under the GSP for Mauritania as a least-developed beneficiary developing country should be restored.

This message is submitted in accordance with the requirements of title V of the Trade Act of 1974.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 30, 1999.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1327. An act to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 34480 Highway 101 South in Cloverdale, Oregon, as the "Maurine B. Neuberger United States Post Office".

H.R. 1568. An act to provide technical, financial, and procurement assistance to veteran owned small businesses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1802. An act to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide States with more funding and greater flexibility in carrying out programs designed to help children make the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2014. An act to prohibit a State from imposing a discriminatory commuter tax on nonresidents.

H.R. 2280. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation paid for service-connected disabilities, to enhance the compensation, memorial affairs, and housing programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve retirement authorities applicable to judges of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 34. Joint resolution congratulating and commending the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills and joint resolution were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred:

H.R. 1327. An act to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 34480 Highway 101 South in Cloverdale, Oregon, as the "Maurine B. Neuberger United States Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1568. An act to provide technical, financial, and procurement assistance to veteran owned small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

H.R. 1802. An act to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide States with more funding and greater flexibility in carrying out programs designed to help children make the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2014. A act to prohibit a State from imposing a discriminatory commuter tax on nonresidents; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2280. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation paid for service-connected disabilities, to enhance the compensation, memorial affairs, and housing programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve retirement authorities applicable to judges of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following joint resolution was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and placed on the calendar:

H.J. Res. 34. Joint resolution congratulating and commending the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated: